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ACTION ARA-16

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FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7731

ARGENTINA PROJECT (S200000044)

U.S. DEPT. OF STATE, A/RPS/IPS

Margaret P. Grafeld, Director

() Release () Excise () Deny

Exemption(s):

Declassify: () In Part () In Full

() Classify as () Extend as () Downgrade to

Date Declassify on Reason

[REDACTED] BUENOS AIRES 9474

E.O. 12065: GDS 12/5/86 (RUSER, CLAUS W.) OR-M

TAGS: SHUM, AR

SUBJECT: CURRENT LISTINGS FOR NUMBER OF DISAPPEARED THIS YEAR

REF: (A) SERVICE LTR TO AMBASSADOR, DTD 11/7/80;
(B) BUENOS AIRES 7722

1. [REDACTED] - ENTIRE TEXT.

2. NOBEL PRIZE WINNER PEREZ ESQUIVEL IS REGULARLY STATING BOTH PUBLICLY AND PRIVATELY THAT 28 PEOPLE HAVE DISAPPEARED IN ARGENTINA THIS YEAR. WE HAVE NOW CONFIRMED THAT PEREZ ESQUIVEL IS QUOTING A STUDY PREPARED BY THE CENTER FOR LEGAL AND SOCIAL STUDIES (CELS). ACCORDING TO A PROMINENT MEMBER OF CELS, 22 OF THE 28 CASES ARE SOLIDLY BASED ON INFORMATION AVAILABLE IN ARGENTINA. THE REMAINDER ARE SKETCHIER CASES DERIVED PRIMARILY FROM SOURCES OUTSIDE THE COUNTRY.

WE HAVE ALSO REVIEWED THE CURRENT LIST OF THE DISAPPEARED COMPILED BY THE PERMANENT ASSEMBLY FOR HUMAN RIGHTS. THERE ARE NOW SEVENTEEN NAMES ON THE LIST. HOWEVER, THREE OF THE ALLEGED DISAPPEARANCES ARE SUPPOSED TO HAVE TAKEN PLACE OUTSIDE THE COUNTRY -- TWO IN PERU AND ONE IN BRAZIL--ALLEGEDLY INVOLVING ARGENTINE SECURITY FORCES WERE INVOLVED IN ABOUT

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EN DISAPPEARANCES IN OTHER COUNTRIES. BUT THE ASSEMBLY INCLUDED THESE THREE BECAUSE THEY WERE

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REPORTED TO IT IN ARGENTINA BY FAMILY MEMBERS.)
ANOTHER OF THE NAMES IS THAT OF AN INDIVIDUAL,
FERNANDO MILER, WHO WAS ARRESTED BY ANONYMOUS SECURITY
PERSONNEL AND FOUND DEAD THE NEXT DAY, AN APPARENT
DEATH WHILE IN CUSTODY (BUENOS AIRES 4456). THIS
CASE DOES NOT FIT INTO THE USUAL DEFINITION OF A
DISAPPEARED. FINALLY, ONE OF THE REMAINING CASES
IS AN INDIVIDUAL WHO THE ASSEMBLY NOW KNOWS NOT TO BE
DISAPPEARED AND WILL BE DROPPED FROM THE LIST. THUS,
THE CURRENT LISTING BY THE PERMANENT ASSEMBLY FOR
DISAPPEAREDS IN ARGENTINA FOR THE YEAR 1980 IS TWELVE
(12). ALL TWELVE OF THESE CASES ALSO APPEAR ON THE
CELS LIST. THE LAST RECORDED DISAPPEARANCES ON BOTH
THE PERMANENT ASSEMBLY AND THE CELS LISTS TOOK PLACE
IN AUGUST.

4. NEW ADDITIONS TO THE PERMANENT ASSEMBLY LIST AS
HAVING DISAPPEARED IN ARGENTINA ARE:
MARTA LIBENSON, MARCH, 1980
ANTONIO TOVO, JUNE, 1980
THE CURRENT LIST OF THE ASSEMBLY NO LONGER INCLUDES
THE NAME OF GARCIELA ALBERTI, WHO, ACCORDING TO THE
LIST SUPPLIED TO US LAST SEPTEMBER (REF B), ALLEGEDLY
DISAPPEARED IN MARCH, 1980. OUR SOURCE COULD NOT
CLARIFY WHY SHE HAD BEEN DROPPED (SHE IS STILL ON
THE CELS LIST).
SHLAUDEMAN

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